

During 2006, 40,896 live births occurred to Kansas residents, representing a birth rate of 14.8 per 1,000 population. This rate was 2.1 percent higher than the rate in 2005. ([Table 7](#))

In 2006, Geary (26.0), Seward (22.0) and Grant (20.0) counties had the highest county birth rates per 1,000 population. Junction City (26.3), Liberal (23.5), and Garden City (22.7) had the highest 2006 city birth rates per 1,000 population. ([Tables 7](#) and [8](#), [Figure 14](#))

Since reaching a peak in 1954 (26.8), Kansas birth rates have followed national trends and generally declined. After dropping steadily from 1990, the most recent peak (15.7 per 1,000 population), to 1996 (14.2 per 1,000 population), the rate has fluctuated between 14.3 and 14.8 per 1,000 population. The Kansas birth rate for 2006 (14.8) was the highest since 1992 (15.0). The 2006 Kansas rate was 3.5 percent higher than the national rate of 14.3. ([Table 9](#), [Figure 11](#))

Fertility rates for the Kansas female population aged 15-44 decreased most years in the period from 1987 to 1996 (68.0 to 64.8 births per 1,000 women in the 15-44 age group), but have increased most years from 1997 to 2006 (65.6 to 73.2). Over the entire period, Kansas fertility rates have risen by 7.6 percent, while national fertility rates have risen 4.4 percent (65.8 to 68.7). The Kansas fertility rate (73.2) in 2006 was 6.6 percent higher than the national rate of 68.7. ([Table 10](#), [Figure 13](#))

Fifty-one percent (51.1) of Kansas live births were male and 48.9 percent were female. ([Table 12](#))

In 2006, 38.3 percent of all Kansas live births occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. Just over fifty percent (50.4) of live births occurred to women in the 25-34 age-group, and 11.0 percent occurred to women 35-44. For comparison, in 2006, 23.7 percent of all Kansas live births had fathers in the 15-24 age-group, 54.6 percent had fathers in the 25-34 age-group, and 19.4 percent had fathers in the 35-44 age group. ([Tables 13](#) and [14](#))

Of the births to mothers 10-19 years of age where the age of the father is known, over one-third (35.7 percent) of fathers were 10-19 while nearly two-thirds (64.3 percent) of fathers were 20 and over. ([Table 13](#))

Over nine percent (9.4) of live births in 2006 were preterm (less than 37 completed weeks of gestation). Ninety-one percent (90.6) occurred at 37 or more weeks of gestation. ([Table 15](#))

In 2006, 75.0 percent of all Kansas resident births were to mothers who received prenatal care that began in the first trimester (first 3 months) of pregnancy. Twenty percent (20.3) began care in the second trimester, and 3.7 percent began in the third trimester. One percent (1.0) received no prenatal care. ([Table 16](#))

Of the 40,896 Kansas resident live births in 2006, 78.4 percent received adequate or better prenatal care, including 33.1 percent with adequate-plus care; 21.6 percent

## Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

received less than adequate prenatal care, including 14.6 percent with inadequate care. ([Table 17](#))

Comanche County had the highest percentage of mothers with adequate or better prenatal care (92.3 percent) followed by Decatur (88.9 percent) and Mitchell counties (88.4 percent). Cheyenne County had the lowest percentage of mothers with adequate or better prenatal care (37.5 percent), followed by Clark (55.0 percent), Hamilton and Meade (both 55.8 percent). ([Table 17](#))

In 2006, of all Kansas live births, 81.5 percent occurred to women 15-34 years of age and weighed 2,500-4,499 grams. ([Table 19](#))

Birth weights for Kansas live births in 2006 were distributed as follows: 7.2 percent of live births weighed under 2,500 grams (low birth weight), 91.8 percent weighed 2,500-4,499 grams (normal birth weight), and 1.0 percent weighed over 4,499 grams (heavy birth weight). ([Tables 18](#) and [19](#))

In 2006, 37.8 percent of Kansas live births were first births. Of the 15,453 first births, 56.3 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. ([Table 20](#), [Figure 15](#))

In 2006, 71.9 percent of Kansas live births were to White Non-Hispanic mothers, 6.9 percent were to Black Non-Hispanic mothers, 5.2 percent were to mothers of Other/Multiple Non-Hispanic races, and 16.1 percent were to Hispanic mothers. ([Table 21](#))

In 2006, there were 14,376 out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents. Of those births, 58.7 percent were to White Non-Hispanic mothers, 14.2 percent were to Black Non-Hispanic mothers, 4.5 percent were to mothers of Other/Multiple Non-Hispanic races, and 22.6 percent were to Hispanic mothers. ([Table 20](#))

The out-of-wedlock birth ratio has continued an upward trend over the years in both Kansas and the U.S. Out-of-wedlock births comprised 35.2 percent of all live births that occurred to Kansas residents in 2006, a 105.8 percent increase from 17.1 percent of live births in 1987. ([Table 1](#), [Figure 16](#))

In 2006, 76.8 percent of non-teen mothers with live births received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy, while only 58.0 percent of teen mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The percent of teens who received no prenatal care (7.5) was higher than that for non-teens (1.0). ([Figure 17](#))

Of the births to teenage women in 2006, 58.4 percent were to White Non-Hispanics, and 12.8 percent were to Black Non-Hispanics 4.4 percent were to Other/Multiple Non-Hispanics and 24.4 percent were to Hispanics. ([Figure 18](#))

The pregnancy rate for females ages 10-19 was 27.1 per 1,000 women in 2006, up 1.5 percent from 2005 (26.7). The 2006 rate was 15.0 percent lower than the rate in 1987 (31.9). Pregnancy rates for females ages 10-17 decreased 33.3 percent during this same time frame. ([Table 23](#), [Figure 19](#))

## Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

Teenage pregnancy rates for White Non-Hispanic mothers fell more steeply from 2002-2006 than rates for other population groups. The pregnancy rate for White Non-Hispanic females ages 10-19 decreased 10.8 percent from 23.2 pregnancies per 1,000 in 2002 to 20.7 in 2006. The rate for Hispanic teens (10-19) has increased by 5.3 percent between 2002 (52.7) and 2006 (55.5). Hispanic teens have the highest pregnancy rates in the state. ([Table 24](#))

In 2006, 51.6 percent of the reported stillbirths occurred to mothers in the 20-29 age-group. ([Table 27](#))

Stillbirth rates in 2006 were highest for unmarried mothers: 5.8 per 1,000 live births plus stillbirths. ([Figure 20](#))

In 2006, the abortion ratio for Kansas residents was 143.9 abortions per 1,000 live births, an increase of 1.5 percent from the 141.8 ratio in 2005. Ratios increased from 161.3 in 1991 to a high of 186.3 in 1996, then generally declined for the next ten years. ([Figure 21](#), [Table 28](#))

The abortion ratio for Kansas residents in 2006 varied substantially by age-group. The ratio per 1,000 live births was highest for women under 20 years of age. Since 1987, the abortion ratio declined for women in age groups 15-19 and 40 plus, but increased for women in age-groups 10-14 and 20-39. ([Figure 22](#))

In 2006, 5,886 abortions were performed for Kansas residents and 5,385 were performed for non-Kansans. Of the 5,886 resident abortions, 98 occurred out of state. ([Figure 24](#), [Tables 28](#) and [30](#))

Of Kansas residents having abortions, 51.2 percent were in the 15-24 age-group. Eighty-two percent were unmarried, and 62.7 percent were White Non-Hispanic. ([Figure 24](#), [Table 29](#))

In 2006, 63.1 percent of all reported abortions occurred prior to nine completed weeks of gestational age. Eleven percent (11.3) of teenage women obtained an abortion after 16 weeks gestation, compared to 5.9 percent of women 20 and older. ([Table 30](#), [Figure 25](#))

Eighty-two percent (82.6) of all reported abortions in 2006 were to unmarried women. Among Black Non-Hispanic women in this group, 89.7 percent were unmarried, while 82.8 percent of White Non-Hispanic women and 78.0 percent of Hispanic women were unmarried. ([Table 31](#))

Suction curettage was the procedure used in 87.6 percent of these terminations. Only 6.9 percent of induced terminations were performed after 16 weeks gestation, and 51.1 percent of these (>16 weeks) used dilation and evacuation and 48.0 percent used Digoxin/Induction. ([Table 33](#))